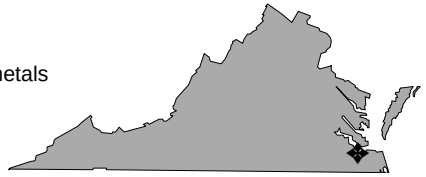
Fort Eustis NPL

Size: 8,228 acres
Mission: House the Army Transportation Training Center; provide training in rail, marine, and all other modes of transportation involved in amphibious operations
HRS Score: 50.00; placed on NPL in December 1994
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Petroleum products, PCBs, VOCs, pesticides, and heavy metals
Media Affected: Groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil
Funding to Date: $41.7 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $7.1 million (FY2024)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2011



Newport News, Virginia

Restoration Background

Fort Eustis is home to the Army Transportation Center, where officers and enlisted soldiers receive education and training in all modes of transportation, aviation maintenance, logistics and deployment doctrine, and research. Investigations have identified 27 sites at the installation, including landfills, underground storage tanks (USTs), pesticide storage areas, range and impact areas, and surface impoundments. The migration of contaminants from some sites to creeks and estuaries and the potential migration through surface water and the upper water table to the James River are of greatest concern at the installation. Analysis of samples indicated the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and lead in surface water and sediment.

In FY90, a Remedial Investigation (RI) began for four sites near estuaries at the installation. In FY92, the Army completed a Preliminary Assessment and a Site Inspection at eight more sites where suspected soil contaminants included fuel and oils, pesticides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

In FY94, the installation completed Interim Remedial Actions (IRAs) for removal of contaminated soil at the Felker Airfield Tank Farm and a waste-oil storage tank site. It also completed cleanup at the two landfills. In the following year, the state approved a corrective action plan (CAP) involving installation of pneumatic pumps and passive skimmers to recover petroleum products from groundwater at the Helicopter Maintenance Area UST site. The installation formed a technical review committee, which meets semiannually.

In FY96, the installation established an administrative record and set up information repositories at three local libraries. The state regulatory agency approved another CAP for installation of a free-product recovery system at the Gas Station UST site. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry published a final Public Health Assessment that indicated that the Fort Eustis National Priorities List (NPL) site poses no apparent risk to public health. The assessment says that health education and a follow-up health study are not warranted. In FY97, a draft Feasibility Study (FS) and an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis for two areas of contaminated sediment were submitted to the regulators for review. Fort Eustis capped a pesticide storage yard with asphalt, limiting exposure to contaminated soil. Fort Eustis solicited public interest in forming a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). Because interest was insufficient, no RAB was formed.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation continued operating free-product recovery systems at two UST sites. It also continued long-term monitoring (LTM) of the groundwater and surface water at a closed landfill. The Army constructed a methane soil vapor extraction system at one closed landfill and installed a methane collection trench at another closed landfill. The installation awarded a contract for an IRA for capping contaminated sediment at a small pond (Brown's Lake). FS and LTM contracts were awarded for evaluating any residual contamination at the pond after the IRA is complete.

EPA is reviewing three RI reports for four estuary sites, a fire training area, a buried sludge site, and a pesticide storage area. The installation completed investigation and field efforts at Eustis Lake and the pesticide storage area and submitted the reports to EPA and the state. The installation also updated the admini- strative record in late FY98; the record is available on CD-ROM.

Plan of Action

- Continue operating the free-product recovery system at two UST sites
- Continue LTM of groundwater and surface water at one closed landfill and operation of a methane vapor extraction system at another closed landfill
- Complete review of three RI reports for four estuary sites, a fire training area, a buried sludge site, and a pesticide storage area in FY99
- Complete the IRA capping of contaminated sediment at Brown's Lake
- Award IRA for removal of PCB-contaminated sediment in Bailey Creek

FY99 Funding by Phase and Relative Risk